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CMS RATFOR USER'S MANUAL †

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ABSTRACT

RATFOR is a preprocessor for Fortran that provides modern control structures and a substantial improvement in the syntax of Fortran programs. The output of RATFOR is a Fortran program that is compiled by the Fortran processors and then executed.

The RATFOR preprocessor provides statement grouping, IF-ELSE structures and four loops: DO, FOR, WHILE and REPEAT-UNTIL.

RATFOR source text is free format with multiple statements on a line. Upper and lower case letters are treated as upper case letters except in character constants. There is an include facility so that large programs can be constructed out of a multitude of small files without using the system editor. RATFOR accepts files consisting of fixed length 80 column records with imbedded tabs.

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The program described here is an adaptation of the original RATFOR processor written at Bell Laboratories for use in the CMS environment.

This manual is a complete set of instructions for using the preprocessor. It includes a description of the RATFOR syntax, a detailed explanation of the preprocessor error messages and directions for using the processor. A detailed description of the preprocessor, which is not needed for general users, is Technical Memorandum No. 79-4 and may be obtained from the second author at the above address.

RATFOR User's Manual

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Summary of RATFOR Features

With the growing concern for the cost of program development, the computer industry has seen a shift towards programming languages that emphasize an organized approach to program development. RATFOR is a new, rational approach to programming in FORTRAN; the language offers RATFOR users the universality and efficiency of FORTRAN, while providing decent program flow control structures. RATFOR, implemented as a preprocessor to FORTRAN, offers the busy programmer statement grouping, IF-ELSE segmenting, and DO, FOR, WHILE, and REPEAT-UNTIL loops. Additional RATFOR features and keywords make code maintenance a less painful task.

This paper is the User's Manual for the RATFOR preprocessor on the IBM CMS timesharing system. Included in this paper is a language description of RATFOR, a discussion of how to use RATFOR on CMS, sample terminal sessions and a detailed explanation of the RATFOR error messages. Within the language description section is a quick reference guide listing the keyword syntax and RATFOR cosmetic features.

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Description of RATFOR

RATFOR is an attempt to hide the worst of FORTRANs defficiencies (primarily hard to understand code), while retaining the advantages of the language (universality, portability, efficiency). RATFOR offers the user powerful program flow control statements without the FORTRAN necessities of GOTOs and labeled statements. Additionally, the RATFOR language provides the user with many "pretty print" features so that a program in RATFOR would be easier to understand and maintain.

The remainder of the Language Description section will explain both the syntactic and cosmetic features of RATFOR. The program flow control structures are typical of the newer high level programming languages. For a quick reference to RATFOR, flip to the Quick Reference Guide at the end of the Language Description section.

Statement Grouping

Often a programmer will want to group a sequence of statements together for execution on a certain condition. Generally, the programmer needs something to say "if some condition, do these things." In RATFOR, statements can be grouped by enclosing them within brackets. For example,

```
IF (A >= 100)
    { C = C + 1
      SUM = SUM + A
      L = 0
    }
```

The example above is a legal RATFOR program segment. Note that the brackets denote a sequence of statements to execute when A >= 100. The brackets perform the same function as the PL/1 DO/END sequence or the PASCAL BEGIN/END sequence.

To the avid FORTRAN programmer, a few things will stand out in the above example. First, RATFOR allows free form input; statements can occur in any column. When RATFOR encounters a statement starting with an all-numeric field, the processor assumes the field is a FORTRAN label and places it in columns 1-5 of the output. Next, the FORTRAN user will observe that '>=' is not a legal FORTRAN boolean relational operator. RATFOR will translate the more understandable relational operators (>,>=,==,<,<=,~,~=,&,|) into their FORTRAN equivalent. The last observation the FORTRAN user will make is the semicolon. Being a free form language, RATFOR allows more than one statement per line. The additional statements must be separated by a semicolon. When only one statement is on a line, the semicolon is

optional. Thus, the previous example could be written as

        IF(A>=100) {C=C+1;SUM=SUM+A;L=0;}

Obviously the first form is easier to understand. One final comment is needed; when a statement is obviously not finished on one line, RATFOR assumes it will be continued on the next line. No character is needed in column 6.

ELSE Clauses

    Occassionally the FORTRAN programmer will want to say "if some condition, do these things, otherwise do these." The ELSE clause provides this option. Naturally the ELSE clause may be left off. The full format of the IF statement is

        IF (legal FORTRAN condition)
            RATFOR statement
         ELSE
            RATFOR statement

The RATFOR statement can be in one of three forms: 1) a single FORTRAN statement (no brackets needed), 2) a bracketed segment of RATFOR and FORTRAN statements, or 3) another RATFOR keyword.

    Notice that the third case allows us the option of nested IFs. A legal sequence of RATFOR statements is

        IF (A == B)
            CTR1=CTR1+1
         ELSE IF (A>B)
                CTR2=CTR2+1
        ELSE
                CTR3=CTR3+1

    Like many languages allowing the IF-ELSE construct, the question arises of which IF does the ELSE match with. This ambiguity is resolved by matching the ELSE with the last unmatched IF. Because RATFOR allows free form input, the user should use indentation to clarify the program listing.

The DO Statement

    The RATFOR DO statement is very similar to the FORTRAN DO statement.

The DO Statement

The major omission is the lack of a statement number. The format

of the RATFOR DO statement is

```
DO legal-FORTRAN-DO-test
   RATFOR statement
```

As before, the RATFOR statement can be a single statement or a sequence of RATFOR statements in brackets. Since the RATFOR statement can be another RATFOR statement, the following sequence is legal.

```
IF (A ~= B)
   DO I=1,5
      IF (SWITCH(i) == 1)
         CTR1=CTR1+1
      ELSE
         CTR2=CTR2+1
```

Notice that in each case, a single RATFOR statement follows the IF and DO statements. Occassionally brackets will help clarify the listing, although they are not necessary.

The BREAK Keyword

The BREAK keyword provides a way of exiting a loop without using the FORTRAN GOTO statement. BREAK can be followed by an integer (BREAK N) specifying how many levels of looping to exit from. The following sequence locates the first non-blank character in a string array

```
DO I=1,80
   IF (STRING(I) == BLANK)
      BREAK
```

BREAK jumps to the statement after the end of the specified loop.
'The NEXT Keyword'
Like BREAK, the NEXT keyword provides a means of loop control without the GOTO statement. NEXT jumps to the iteration step of the specified loop. NEXT can also be followed by an integer (NEXT N) giving the loop level to go to

```
DO I=1,80
   { IF (STR(I)==BLANK)
        NEXT
     STR(I)=STAR
   }
```

This sequence of code sets all non-blank characters in a string

array to '*'. STAR is assumed defined above.

The WHILE Statement

WHILE provides a more powerful looping structure than the simple DO loop. The syntax of the WHILE statement is

```
WHILE (legal FORTRAN condition)
    RATFOR statement
```

Notice that the WHILE loop checks the FORTRAN condition at the start of the loop so that the loop may be executed zero times. The sequence

```
I=80
WHILE(STR(I)~=BLANK)
    I=I+1
```

locates the last non-blank character in an input card of 80 characters. Of course the NEXT and BREAK statements can occur within a WHILE loop. The NEXT statement in a WHILE loop goes to the test condition.

The FOR Statement

The FOR statement is yet another powerful RATFOR loop structure. The syntax of the FOR statement is

```
FOR (initial; condition; increment)
    RATFOR statement
```

where initial is any one FORTRAN statement, condition is the stopping condition and increment is the final step (a single statement) in the loop. Any of the fields can be null so long as the semicolon delimiter is present. Our last non-blank character example above is

```
FOR (I=80; STR(I)~=BLANK; I=I-1)
    ;
```

Notice that the actual loop portion is the null statement. This is because everything we will want to do is in the FOR statement. As may be obvious by now, certain loop constructs work better in different situations. Choose the best and simplest for your work. The NEXT statement in a FOR loop goes to the increment step of the loop.

The REPEAT-UNTIL Statements

The REPEAT-UNTIL construct is the last loop control structure in RATFOR. It provides a means of checking the exit condition at the bottom of the loop. Recall that WHILE and FOR check at the top of loops. The syntax of the statement is

```
REPEAT
   RATFOR statement
UNTIL (legal FORTRAN condition)
```

The UNTIL is optional and, if omitted, provides an infinite loop. Of course the programmer will want to get out of the loop using BREAK, STOP, or RETURN. Caution should be used with the REPEAT-UNTIL construct as it does not test for the null case.

The RETURN Statement

The standard FORTRAN RETURN mechanism uses the function name to return a value. This is allowable in RATFOR as well as expressions of the form

```
RETURN (value)
```

If there are no parentheses, a normal RETURN is made.

The DEFINE Statement

The DEFINE statement is not an executed RATFOR statement; no FORTRAN code is generated. The statement allows the user to create program definitions to make his program more understandable. The syntax is

```
DEFINE (name, definition)
            or
DEFINE   name, definition
```

Every occurrence of name in the user source code is immediately replaced by the definition. Optimally, DEFINEs should be at the start of the source code to clarify their use. The name portion can be arbitrarily long and must start with a letter. The DEFINE statement can be used to define global constants as follows

```
DEFINE (YES,1)
DEFINE (NO,0)
```

With the above statements, we can now say

```
IF (ISMTQ == 1)
   RETURN (YES)
 ELSE
   RETURN (NO)
```

The INCLUDE Statement

The INCLUDE statement inserts files directly in the RATFOR source code input. The statement

        INCLUDE RATCMN

inserts the CMS file RATCMN (possibly containing COMMON blocks) into the user source code in place of the INCLUDE statement. Thus, the programmer would type the program COMMON blocks once into the RATCMN file and then, in each subroutine needing the COMMON blocks, insert "INCLUDE RATCMN." Of course changes to the RATCMN file would affect every subroutine having the INCLUDE statement. The syntax of the statement is

        INCLUDE   FN   FT   FM

Where FN is the CMS file name (8 characters maximum), FT the CMS file type (optional - Default RATFOR), and FM the CMS file mode (optional - Default A1).

RATFOR Cosmetic Features

As mentioned before, RATFOR provides many cosmetic features to allow the user a sharp looking listing. In addition to a sharper listing, the use of cosmetics makes the source listing more readable and easier to maintain.

First, RATFOR allows free format input. Statements can occur anywhere on a line. If more than one statement is on a line, they must be separated by a semicolon. Blank lines are ignored. The user need not worry about a long statement continuing to a new card; RATFOR can make a fair estimate whether the statement is a continuation. Lines ending with any of the characters

        = + - * , | & (

are assumed to be continued on the next line.

The next cosmetic feature is RATFOR commenting. Comments start with a # and can occur anywhere in a line. Thus, comments can occur next to source statements. Comments are assumed to continue until the end of the card.

RATFOR will perform translation services for the user whenever they are needed, excepting within single or double quotes:

```
==  to  .eq.          ~=  to  .ne.
 >  to  .gt.          >=  to  .ge.
 <  to  .lt.          <=  to  .le.
 &  to  .and.          |  to  .or.
 !  to  .not.          ~  to  .not.
```

Additionally, the statement grouping brackets can be either { and }, [and], or $(and $).

One important cosmetic feature is that RATFOR input can be in upper and lower case. Anything not within single or double quotes is translated to upper case for the CMS FORTRAN compiler.

Lastly, text within matching single or double quotes is converted to its Hollerith equivalent ('string'=6Hstring). Within quoted strings, the backslash '\' serves as an escape character; the next character is taken literally. This way a single quote can be entered as "\'" .

Quick Reference Guide to RATFOR

(Keyword Syntax)

BREAK keyword

    BREAK N   (N=1 by default)

    Exits from N levels of enclosing loops.

DEFINE statement

    DEFINE (defined name, defined value)
                    or
    DEFINE defined name, defined value

    Defined name may be arbitrarily long & must start with
    a letter.

DO statement

    DO   legal-FORTRAN-DO-test
         RATFOR statement

FOR statement

    FOR (initial; condition; increment)
        RATFOR statement

    Initial - any single FORTRAN statement
    Condition - any legal RATFOR condition
    Increment - any single FORTRAN statement

IF statement

    IF (legal FORTRAN condition)
       RATFOR statement
     ELSE
       RATFOR statement

    The ELSE is optional and is matched with the last IF.

INCLUDE statement

    INCLUDE   FN   FT   FM

    FN - CMS file name (8 characters maximum)
    FT - CMS file type (Optional - Default RATFOR)
    FM - CMS file mode (Optional - Default A1)

NEXT keyword

    NEXT N   (N=1 by default)

    Branches to next iteration of Nth loop.

REPEAT-UNTIL statements

    REPEAT
        RATFOR statement
     UNTIL (legal FORTRAN condition)

RETURN

    RETURN (expression)

WHILE statement

    WHILE (legal FORTRAN condition)
        RATFOR statement

*** A RATFOR statement can be any of the following:
    1. A single FORTRAN statement.
    2. A bracketed set of statements.
    3. Any of the RATFOR statements just described.

Quick Reference Guide to RATFOR

(Cosmetics)

* Free form input (ie. spacing is not important).

* Lines ending with = + - * , / | & (are assumed to be continued. No continuation signaler is needed.

* Statements beginining with an all-numeric field is assumed to be a FORTRAN label and is placed in columns 1-5 of the output.

* Strings in matching single or double quotes are converted to Hollerith form ('string'=6Hstring).

* Statement grouping using either { and }, [and], or $(and $).

* Comments beginning anywhere in the input, denoted by #.

* Translation services
```
==  to  .eq.        ~=  to  .ne.
>   to  .gt.        >=  to  .ge.
<   to  .lt.        <=  to  .le.
&   to  .and.       |   to  .or.
~   to  .not.
```

RATFOR Reference

Kernighan, Brian W. "RATFOR - A Preprocessor for a Rational
    FORTRAN",   Bell Laboratories Technical Report 55,
    January 1, 1977.

Using RATFOR on CMS

Running a program through the CMS RATFOR preprocessor is a very simple task. All the user has to do is to type "RATFOR". The system will then ask for the name of the RATFOR file to be processed; the file type must be RATFOR. The user file is then translated to legal FORTRAN, possibly with error messages being flagged by RATFOR. If errors are present, the system will list the error messages on the terminal. Detailed explanations of the RATFOR error messages can be found later in this User's Manual.

If the user program is free of RATFOR errors, it is then compiled using the CMS FORTGI compiler. The compiler flags any illegal FORTRAN statements. The result of the entire RATFOR process is a TEXT file having the same file name as the original user RATFOR program. This TEXT file can be run like any other CMS TEXT file.

While on CMS, if any questions arise as to how to use the RATFOR preprocessor, type "RATFOR ?". The system will respond with a description similar to the one just given. If this does not suffice, follow the sample terminal sessions given later in this document.

Please note that the RATFOR preprocessor may be slow, depending on the length of the user program. Have patience, the preprocessor is not stuck in a loop.

All of the executable files for RATFOR are on the A disk of CMS userid CSDULLES. To gain access to these files, enter the following CMS commands:

```
cp link csdulles 191 333 read all
access 333 g/a
```

Sample Terminal Sessions

'>'   Prompts the user for a response

*** Normal Terminal Session ***

    >RATFOR
    *** RATFOR COMPILER ***

    ENTER NAME OF RATFOR FILE:
    >TEST

    NO RATFOR MESSAGES FOR TEXT

    G1 COMPILER ENTERED
    SOURCE ANALYZED
    PROGRAM NAME = MAIN
    *   NO DIAGNOSTICS GENERATED

*** Terminal Session with RATFOR errors ***

    >RATFOR
    *** RATFOR COMPILER ***

    ENTER NAME OF RATFOR FILE:
    >BAD

    RATFOR MESSAGES FOR BAD

    ? error at line 2:
    25-Unexpected EOF.

    The next step is to look up Error Message 25 in the
    User's Manual for a detailed explanation of the problem.

*** Terminal Session asking for help ***

    >RATFOR ?
    *** RATFOR COMPILER ***

    [Explanation of RATFOR preprocessor]

"01-Missing Left Paren."

Meaning: A left parenthesis was missing starting an IF,
                  WHILE, or UNTIL statement.
Correction: Check to ensure that all parentheses are
                  balanced.

"02-Missing Parenthesis in Condition."

Meaning: The parser encountered unbalanced parentheses
                  in an IF, WHILE or UNTIL conditional state-
                  ment.
Correction: Check to ensure that all parentheses are
                  balanced within the conditional.

"03-Illegal BREAK."

Meaning: An attempt was made to either generate code
                  for the BREAK statement outside of a loop or
                  to transfer control outside of an illegal num-
                  ber of loops (N too high on "BREAK N").
Correction: Make sure the BREAK statement occurs within a
                  loop. Check the level of the BREAK with the
                  level of looping.

"04-Illegal NEXT."

Meaning: An attempt was made to either generate code
                  for the NEXT statement while not in a loop, or
                  to transfer control through too many levels of
                  looping (N too high on "NEXT N").
Correction: Make sure the NEXT statement occurs within a
                  loop. Check the level of the NEXT with the
                  level of looping.

"05-Unexpected EOF."

Meaning: The parser was expecting more of the input
                  card when an end of file condition occurred.
Correction: Check for unfinished continuation cards.

RATFOR Error Messages
Explanations & Corrections

"06-Unbalanced parentheses."

Meaning:	The parser encountered unbalanced parentheses in an IF, WHILE, or UNTIL statement.
Correction:	Check to ensure that all parentheses are balanced within the statement.

"07-Missing left paren in FOR statement."

Meaning:	A left parenthesis was expected at the start of the FOR statement.
Correction:	Make sure all necessary parentheses are present.

"08-Unbalanced parentheses in FOR clause."

Meaning:	Unbalanced parentheses were encountered while parsing the FOR statement.
Correction:	Check to see that the FOR statement has a balanced number of parentheses.

"09-FOR clause too long."

Meaning:	The specified FOR clause was longer than the maximum length (currently 200 characters).
Correction:	Where possible, break the FOR clause into smaller pieces.

"10-Non-Alphanumeric name in DEFINE."

Meaning:	The name specified in the DEFINE statement had a non-alphanumeric character in it.
Correction:	Correct the DEFINE to be composed of numbers and letters only.

"11-Definition too long."

Meaning:	The specified definition was longer than the maximum definition size (currently 200 characters).
Correction:	Choose a smaller definition.

RATFOR Error Messages
Explanations & Corrections

"12-Missing comma in DEFINE."

    Meaning: The form of the DEFINE statement having paren-
                    theses also has a comma between the name and
                    definition.
    Correction: Add the necessary comma.

"13-Missing right paren in DEFINE."

    Meaning: A definition starting with a left parenthesis
                    did not have a matching right parenthesis.
    Correction: Add the necessary right parenthesis.

"14-GETDEF is confused."

    Meaning: An unexpected token was found in the DEFINE
                    statement.
    Correction: Correct the DEFINE statement according to the
                    rules specified in the language description.

"15-INCLUDEs nested too deeply."

    Meaning: More than 92 user-nested INCLUDE files were
                    opened concurrently.
    Correction: 99 is the maximum number of concurrent FILE-
                    DEFs allowed by CMS for a FORTRAN file (user-
                    defined files start with unit number 7).
                    Check your program for recursion - since this
                    is not check for, an infinite INCLUDE loop may
                    have occurred.

"16-Specified file does not exist."

    Meaning: The file specified in the INCLUDE statement
                    does not exist.
    Correction: Check to make sure the file name, file type
                    (Default RATFOR), and file mode (Default A1)
                    were spelled correctly.

RATFOR Error Messages
Explanations & Corrections

"17-Error in defining file."

Meaning:	The CMS FILEDEF statement did not execute correctly. The specified file was not included.
Correction:	Make sure your INCLUDE statement did not include any CMS unprintable characters within the file name.

"18-Token too long."

Meaning:	The input token was longer than the maximum token length (currently 200 characters).
Correction:	Shorten the token to something within the length boundary.

"19-Missing Quote in string."

Meaning:	The string in error was missing its terminating quote mark.
Correction:	Add the required quote mark and resubmit the program.

"20-Too many definitions."

Meaning:	Too many DEFINE statements were encountered.
Correction:	Cut the number of DEFINEs down to the current maximum (6500 characters in all definitions).

"21-Warning: Possible label conflict."

Meaning:	A user-defined label may conflict with a RATFOR-generated label.
Correction:	Generally RATFOR-generated labels are of the form 23XXX. If a conflict occurs, choose another user label.

RATFOR Error Messages
Explanations & Corrections

"22-Illegal ELSE."

    Meaning: An ELSE was encountered that did not have a matching IF statement.

    Correction: Check to ensure that every ELSE has an associated IF statement.

"23-Stack overflow in parser."

    Meaning: An attempt was made to add too many tokens to the parser stack.

    Correction: Send a copy of your RATFOR file to Dick Orgass - CMS userid ORGASS, along with an explanation of the problem encountered.

"24-Illegal right brace."

    Meaning: A right brace was encountered that did not have a matching left brace.

    Correction: Ensure that all left braces have a matching number of right braces.

"25-Unexpected EOF."

    Meaning: The parser was expecting more symbols (possibly loop terminators or brackets) when an end of file condition occurred.

    Correction: Make sure that all loops are in accordance with the language description and that every left bracket has a matching right bracket.

"26-Too many characters pushed back."

    Meaning: An attempt was made to push more characters on the input buffer than was allowed.

    Correction: Send your RATFOR source to Dick Orgass - CMS userid ORGASS, along with an explanation of the problem encountered.

APPENDIX

On Line - Help File

RATFOR

A Rational Alternative to Fortran

RATFOR is a fairly popular preprocessor for Fortran. It provides modern control structures as well as a pleasant syntax for Fortran programs. Many of the truly irritating syntactical conventions of Fortran are avoided in RATFOR and the resulting Fortran code is of good quality. Note that RATFOR will not write any non-standard Fortran unless you write it into the program directly.

Any of the published documentation on RATFOR combined with the material in this file is adequate to use the preprocessor. CMS RATFOR differs from other versions in that lower case letters are mapped into upper case letters except in quoted strings and Hollerith constants. Both single and double quotes may open a quoted string; the next occurrence of the same quote ends the string. Detailed documentaton for this CMS implementation may be obtained by contacting:

> Richard J. Orgass
> Department of Computer Science
> VPI&SU
> P. O. Box 17186
> Washington, D.C.   20041
>
> CMS userid: ORGASS

Please specify if you want the user's manual or the systems manual. The latter is designed for readers who wish to modify the preprocessor and does not contain information that is needed by general users.

Using RATFOR

The RATFOR preprocessor accepts input files with fixed length records and 80 column record length. Tabs are equivalent to blanks so that tabs can be used to provide indented program text that visually extends beyond column 80.

Input files to RATFOR must be of file type RATFOR and located on the user's A disk or a read only extension of this disk. If you have created a file <fn> RATFOR, this file can be converted into a text file for execution by executing the command:

> ratfor <fn>

This will invoke the RATFOR processor and then the Fortran G compiler. If there are no errors, only a file <fn> TEXT will be produced.

If there are RATFOR errors, error messages will be printed on the terminal and written to file <fn> ERROR. The Fortran compiler will not be invoked.

If there are no RATFOR errors but there are Fortran errors, at least two additional files will be produced: <fn> FORTRAN and <fn> LISTING. [There may also be a file <fn> TEXT if one is produced by Fortran.] The listing file will only contain error messages and not the complete text of the program.

Note that the Fortran files produced by RATFOR are very difficult to read; there are no comments and no redundant spaces. These files are only intended for compilation and not for human consumption.

Entering the command:

ratfor ?

will print this text on your terminal.

Additional Options

Executing the command:

ratforh <fn>

will invoke the Fortran H compiler instead of the Fortran G compiler to translate the RATFOR program into executable code.

Executing the command:

ratno <fn>

will invoke the RATFOR preprocessor and will not subsequently invoke any Fortran compiler. If there are no RATFOR detected errors, a single file, <fn> FORTRAN will be created; it contains the Fortran that corresponds to the input RATFOR. If RATFOR detects errors, error messages will be written on the terminal and into file <fn> ERROR.

Both of these commands accept ? as an argument to print this text.

Availability

All of the files needed to use RATFOR are part of the public library of the Computer Science Graduate Program in Northern Virginia. This library is the A disk of userid CSDULLES. To use RATFOR, execute the following commands:

```
cp link csdulles 191 33ö read all
access 330 e/a
```

The RATFOR processor assumes that this disk is a read only exten-
sion of your A disk; it will not function correctly if this is
not the case!

Relevant Files

The following files, located on the A disk of CSDULLES are
part of the RATFOR processor:

```
RAT       MODULE
RATFOR    EXEC
RATFORH   EXEC
RATNO     EXEC
QUERYFIL  EXEC
RATFOR    HELP
```

The RATFOR source for the preprocessor is available to indivi-
duals who might wish to modify the program for their own use.
Please contact userid ORGASS if you wish to secure a copy of the
source code.